

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for reducing core-set and/or post-process curl in an imaging element in which the support layer comprises a biaxially stretched, semicrystalline film base of a PET-based polyester material comprising one or more polyester resins, in which material the total level of repeat units derived from 1,4-cyclohexane dimethanol is 65 to 100 mol %, based on total glycol component in the material, said process comprising annealing the support at temperatures between 60°C and $T_g + 15^\circ\text{C}$ for a time less than 6 min, wherein T_g is the glass transition temperature of the unprocessed amorphous polyester material.
2. The process of claim 1 wherein the post-process curl is less than 60 m^{-1} after annealing.
3. The process of claim 1 wherein the film base comprises a PET-based polyester material in which the level of repeat units derived from an acid component other than terephthalic acid or its ester is in the amount of 3 to 30 mol %, based on the total acid component.
4. The process of claim 1 wherein the film base comprises a PET-based polyester material in which the total level of repeat units derived from 1,4-cyclohexane dimethanol is 65 to 95 mol %, based on total glycol component in the material.
5. The process of claim 1 wherein the film base is manufactured by a process of melt extrusion, casting, biaxial stretching and heat-setting.
6. The process of claim 5 wherein the support comprised of said film base is subsequently wound on a core.

7. The process of claim 6 comprising, prior to annealing, unwinding the support from the core and conveying said support in the form of a moving web through or past a heating means for annealing the support.

8. The process of claim 7, wherein after annealing the support by said heating means, the support is cooled and rewound again for use in subsequent operations.

9. The process of claim 1 wherein the support is annealed when in the form of a moving web.

10. The process of claim 1 wherein the support is annealed in-line immediately after manufacturing the film base, before the support is wound on a core.

11. The process of claim 1 wherein the support, after annealing, is immediately wound into an insulated enclosure.

12. The process of claim 1 in which the level of repeat units derived from 1,4-cyclohexane dimethanol is at least 70 mol %, based on total glycol component in the material.

13. The process of claim 1 wherein the PET-based polyester material comprises a blend comprising at least two polyesters, a first polyester being a high-CHDM-modified PET polyester in which the level of CHDM-comonomer units is above about 95 mol %, and a second polyester comprising repeat units derived from 1,4-cyclohexane dimethanol, wherein the total repeat units derived from 1,4-cyclohexane dimethanol in the PET-based polyester material is at a level of 65 to 100 mol % based on total glycol component in the polyester material.

14. The process of claim 13, wherein the first polyester comprises 100% of CHDM-monomer, based on the glycol component in the first polyester.

15. The process of claim 13 wherein the second polyester is a CHDM-modified-PET polyester.

16. The process of claim 1 wherein the repeat units derived from 1,4-cyclohexane dimethanol is at a level of above 75 mol % based on total glycol component in the PET-based polyester material.

17. The process of claim 3 wherein the acid component other than terephthalic acid is selected from the group consisting of isophthalic acid (IPA), 1,4-cyclohexanedicarboxylic acid (1,4-CHDA), paraphenylenedicarboxylic acid (PPDA), naphthalenedicarboxylic acid (NDA) and derivatives thereof.

18. The process of claim 1 wherein at least one light-sensitive or heat-sensitive imaging layer is coated over the support following annealing of the support.

19. The process of claim 3 wherein the film base comprises a PET-based polyester material comprising one or more polyester resins, in which material the total level of repeat units derived from 1,4-cyclohexane dimethanol, based on the total glycol component in the material, is 65 to 100 mol %, and wherein the level of repeat units derived from an acid component other than terephthalic acid or its ester is in the amount of 3 to 30 mol %, based on the total acid component, wherein the acid component other than terephthalic acid is selected from the group consisting of isophthalic acid (IPA), 1,4-cyclohexanedicarboxylic acid (1,4-CHDA), paraphenylenedicarboxylic acid (PPDA), naphthalenedicarboxylic acid (NDA) and derivatives thereof.

20. The process of claim 1 wherein said annealing is conducted by means of contact with a heated surface, by the use of heated convected air, by the use of a radiant energy source, or by a combination thereof.